Fiscal Estimate - 2003 Session

	Original	Update	ed		Corrected	d [Suppl	emental			
LRB Nu	ımber 03-3 9	955/1		Introd	uction	Number	AB-736	3			
Subject											
Contribution	Contributions by electric and gas utilities to the utility public benefits fund										
Fiscal Eff	ect										
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Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations GPR FED PRS SEG SEGS 20.155 (1) (g)											
Agency/P	repared By	 -	Autho	orized Si	gnature			Date			
PSC/ Gordon Grant (608) 267-9086 Burnie				e Bridge (608) 267-7897			1/8/2004				

Fiscal Estimate Narratives PSC 1/8/2004

LRB Number 03-3955/1	Introduction Number	AB-736	Estimate Type	Original						
Subject										
Contributions by electric and gas utilities to the utility public benefits fund										

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill requires that any portion of a utility payment approved by the PSC for retention by the utility must be used by the utility for conservation programs for industrial, commercial and agricutural customers in the utility's service area. It is anticipated that three to four utilities may request to retain a portion of their Public Benefit Program funding to participate in this program. To determine the usefullness of the utility proposal the PSC would use the criteria established in rules required under AB 737, or be required to conduct a rule-making under the provisions of this bill. Prior to the creation of the Public Benefits Program the PSC had the equivalent of 7.0 FTE monitoring and working on the programs. Currently, the PSC has .5 FTE. It is impossible to say with any certainty an appropriate number of staff that would be required to be allocated to this activity without first knowing the number of utilities that would opt to participate. It should be noted that when the PSC had 7.0 FTE positions the major public utilities were operating extensive programs that included a residential component, a component that is not included in this bill.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Unknown